CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	Snap Chat
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1600211.000
Medium:	Computer Text File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	New Zealand
Language:	English
Applicant:	Commissioner of Police
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	19 May 2016
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	18 May 2016

Summary of reasons for decision:

The publication is a series of screenshots showing a 'Snap Chat' conversation on a mobile phone. The conversation involves a man boasting about his sexual abuse of children. The publication legitimises and perpetuates the idea that children are sexually available and appropriate subjects for adult sexual attention. Therefore it promotes and supports the exploitation of children for sexual purposes.

This classification interferes with the right to freedom of expression provided by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, however it is consistent with Parliament's intention that publications falling under s3(2) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 are deemed to be objectionable. This is a reasonable limitation on the right to freedom of expression that reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to protect its young from sexual exploitation.